Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-11 NSAE-00 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 L-03 OES-07 DOE-15 SOE-02 NRC-05 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 DOEE-00 /132 W

-----048155 140600Z /13/64

O R 131302Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO TREASURY DEPT WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7072
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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CORRECTEDCOPY (ADDING REFERENCE)

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY OECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OECD, PDIP, UK, EFIN

SUBJECT: OECD MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE ON EXPORT CREDIT (U.K. POSITION)

REF: STATE 147745

SUMMARY: U.K. IS NOT HOSTILE TO THE SUBSTANCE OF U.S. PROPOSAL BUT HAS DIFFICULTY WITH CERTAIN SPECIFIC

LANGUAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. CHANCELLOR HEALEY WAS ABSENT FROM LONDON TUES. 6/13. CONFIDENTIAL

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AMBASSADOR BREWSTER SENT LETTER TO CHANCELLOR HEALEY INCORPORATING SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL ALMOST VERBATIM. THIS LETTER WAS DELIVERED BY TREASURY REP TO KEN COUZENS, SECOND PERMANENT SECRETARY, HMTREASURY, ON TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 13; COUZENS WILL BE ACCOMPANYING HEALEY TO THE OECD MINISTERIAL. ALSO PRESENT WAS JOAN KELLEY, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, HM TREASURY, RESPONSIBLE FOR EXPORT

CREDITS.

- 2. U.K. SIDE HAD RECEIVED PROPOSED U.S. LANGUAGE FROM OECD, COUZENS' FIRST REACTIONS WERE THAT THE U.K. IS CER-TAINLY NOT HOSTILE TO THE THOUGHTS EXPRESSED AND IN PRINCIPAL AGREED WITH THEM BUT ALSO HAVING SOME DOUBTS ABOUT THEIR PRACTICALITY. THE GENERAL AIM IS FINE BUT COUZENS EXPECTED TWO SPECIFIC POINTS IN THE U.S. LANGUAGE WOULD RAISE DIFFICULTIES WITH MINISTERS (NOT JUST HIS) AND REQUIRE GREATER ELABORATION. THESE WERE THE U.S. AIMS OF "INCLUDING AREAS THAT ARE EXEMPTED FROM COVER-AGE" AND "OTHER GOVERNMENTAL INDUCEMENTS OF A PREDATORY NATURE." U.S. COULD EXPECT TO BE QUESTIONED VERY CLOSE-LY ON WHAT SPECIFIC AREAS AND WHAT SPECIFIC PREDATORY IN-DUCEMENTS WE HAVE IN MIND. THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE MIGHT HAVE TO BE WRITTEN IN A MORE GENERAL NATURE IN ORDER TO MAKE IT ACCEPTABLE. AT PRESENT, COUZENS THOUGHT IT "TOO LARGE AND TOO SUBJECTIVE."
- 3. HE CONCLUDED THE U.K. WOULD TRY TO BE HELPFUL BUT EITHER GREATER GENERALITY OR MORE PRECISION WOULD NEED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LANGUAGE.
- 4. MS. KELLEY ADDED THAT SHE THOUGHT PARAGRAPHS 10C AND 10D OF THE CONSENSUS THAT EXEMPTED AIRCRAFT AND NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS CONFIDENTIAL

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WOULD BE AREAS OF EXEMPTION THAT
COULD BE CONSIDERED RIPE FOR COVERAGE. IN ADDITION,
LANGUAGE MIGHT BE ADDED ON FOLLOW-UP WORK. KELLEY FELT
STRONGLY HOWEVER THAT FOR THE CONSENSUS TO WORK, IT NEEDS
TO BE CLEARLY DEFINED AND MUST BE LIMITED TO OFFICIAL
EXPORT CREDITS.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: EXPORTS, CREDIT, COMMUNIQUES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 13 jun 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LONDON09309
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS

Errors: N/A **Expiration:** Film Number: D780250-0926

Format: TEL

From: LONDON USEEC Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780666/aaaacene.tel

Line Count: 102 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: ef5c498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 STATE 147745

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 28 jun 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2375756 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: OECD MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE ON EXPORT CREDIT (U.K. POSITION) TAGS: PDIP, EFIN, UK, OECD TO: TRSY STATE MULTIPLE

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ef5c498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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